

**HEALTH COMMITTEE
of the
Suffolk County Legislature**

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature was held at the William H. Rogers Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York in the Rose Y. Caracappa Auditorium on Thursday, **August 2, 2001** at 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Legislator Ginny Fields, Chairperson
Legislator Brian Foley, Vice-Chair
Legislator Maxine Postal
Legislator Martin Haley

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Paul Sabatino II, Counsel to the Legislature
Mary Skiber, Legislative Aide to Legislator Fields
Chris Reimann, Legislative Aide to Presiding Officer Tonna
Priscilla Smith, Legislative Aide to Legislator Crecca
Mary Howe, Budget Review Office
Bonnie Godsmen, IR/County Executive's Office
Dr. Clare Bradley, Commissioner, Suffolk County Department of Health
Bob Maimoni, Suffolk County Department of Health
Dominick Ninivaggi, Suffolk County Department of Health
Ted Sklar, County Attorney's Office
Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:

Kimberly Castiglione, Legislative Secretary

(The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m.)

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Good morning. We are going to start with an executive session and that means that anyone from the public cannot be in the room while we have the executive session, but then we will reach out to you and tell you that we are finished and begin the actual formal Health Committee meeting. We will be discussing health center litigation and approving the presence of the County Attorney's Office, Budget Review Office, County Executive's Office, members of the Suffolk County Health Department, Legislative Counsel Paul Sabatino, and staff member from Presiding Officer Tonna's Office.

(Executive Session began at 10:15 a.m. and the meeting was reconvened at 11:00 a.m.)

We are going to start with asking Dr. Bradley about IR 1490 and whether or not you thought it would be possible to get all of the information on the label for water that seemed to be required.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

**I.R. 1490 Adopting Local Law No. – 2001, a Local Law to
establish healthy bottled water labeling law. (Alden)**

DR. BRADLEY:

My feeling is that there are over 100 required tests that I feasibly don't see how you could put all of that on a bottle of water. I think there are some other things that we could do in terms of educating people about how the testing is and if they are concerned how they could outreach to the State Health Department or us. Also, we could step up our testing of bottled

water in Suffolk County. It is just another check on the bottled water system. But trying to get all of the manufacturers of bottled water, and I think there is over 100, most of them are outside of the County, to put a label with the testing that is done I don't think is the appropriate course of action.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I am going to make a – go ahead.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

I am sorry, I was out of the room for a minute. Have you met with the prime sponsor of the bill?

DR. BRADLEY:

We offered.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

So you haven't actually but you have been willing. Is there any way that – I am just wondering, I am thinking about food labeling. Food products are generally labeled with all of the ingredients in the order in which the largest percentage of something is listed first and it goes down to the smallest percentage. Is there any way that you could provide information to the public, maybe not on a label, but a sign wherever the product is sold with that information. So if it is voluminous information, you wouldn't have to fit it on a little label. Is that a possibility or is there a possibility – you are talking about a tremendous number of tests. I assume each of those tests are for a different toxic agent, potentially toxic agent in certain quantities.

DR. BRADLEY:

Correct. And they don't just – well, if you are talking about let's say applesauce, they would do that identification of the contents and that would be it. With the water, they have to periodically test their water. If you went down the road of putting up a sign you would have to constantly be changing the sign because the water manufacturer has to redo that testing to satisfy the State Health Department requirements.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

What happens with the Suffolk County Water Authority? The Suffolk County Water Authority has to test its water periodically, too –

DR. BRADLEY:

Yes.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

And they – I don't know whether they have to do this or they choose to do this, but at least on an annual basis they notify the public of the results of their testing. So could – is it feasible that water, bottled water manufacturers could be required to post the results of their testing on an annual, not on an annual basis, but the results of an annual testing rather than the periodic testing, similar to what the Suffolk County Water Authority has to do.

DR. BRADLEY:

And you are asking if – then it would go up in all the stores where water is sold.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

Right, rather than on the label.

DR. BRADLEY:

And then if like a particular store has ten bottled waters then there would be ten different signs.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

Right.

MR. MAIMONI:

I'm sorry. The County Executive's Office has advised me that the primary sponsor of the bill is looking to –

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

I'm sorry. I can't hear you.

MR. MAIMONI:

The primary sponsor of the bill is going to do a corrected copy of the bill. Apparently it has some internet implications, and I am not sure exactly what that is. I am getting it third hand.

The other point that I think has merit here is that when we talk about the applesauce and we talk about different things other products have, it is something that is being implemented on a federal level so it is easy to say all the manufacturers do it. But being a County where 98 out of the 106 bottled water companies are outside our County, it is hard for us to pass a rule that makes them do it. The feds can get away with that.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

It is just that this has been something we've done over and over again. The cell phone statute is a good example. I am just suggesting that – and the information that the prime sponsor is currently working on a corrected copy with other issues and all of these issues taken into consideration really is just what I was suggesting that there may be a way to accomplish the same goal of informing the consumer and making it practical.

MS. GODSMEN:

Something he had said in Consumer Protection, which is where the resolution is prime is that he said possibly he would look into doing something like a website on each of the bottles where they could go to the distributor, look it up, on a daily basis that they would be responsible for doing that. He had several people from the Bottled Water Association here. He said a corrected copy is forthcoming. We haven't seen anything yet, and I don't know if Paul is informed of it or not, but it was tabled in Consumer Protection which is where it was prime. That is what Legislator Alden had said.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Legislator Haley. I am going to make a motion to table but –

LEGISLATOR HALEY:

I'll second that, too. I just have a quick question. I just had a constituent call me just yesterday and was doing – was on a committee for a hamlet study in Rocky Point. One of the things that they have to look into is the water quality. He said to me – I said the Water Authority provides that information on a regular basis. The impression I got from this individual is he didn't trust the Water Authority to put out accurate information. I explained to him that there was no benefit for them to do otherwise, simply because they are a public benefit corporation. If water is not good in point (a), they just move to point (b), and all of that is certainly passed on to the ratepayers and stuff like that. Is there any – go ahead. I know you have a response.

DR. BRADLEY:

We double check. We on a routine basis – we don't check it as frequently as they do, but we go in and do spot checking of the Water Authority to verify that the levels are appropriate in terms of contaminants.

LEGISLATOR HALEY:

Isn't the Water Authority – their requirements are more stringent than federal, right?

DR. BRADLEY:

Excuse me?

LEGISLATOR HALEY:

I think they have self-imposed limits that are more stringent than the federal and State I believe.

DR. BRADLEY:

I don't know the answer to that.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I think Steve Jones or Mike LoGrande did say that when they were here one day, is that they do more testing than is required.

DR. BRADLEY:

Yes, I thought you meant the levels.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Okay. Motion to table. We have a second by Legislator Haley, I believe. All in favor? Opposed? The motion is tabled. **(Vote: 4/0/0/0)**

I.R. 1631(P) Accepting and appropriating 100% grant funds from the New York State Department of Health to the Department of Health Services, Division of Patient Care Services for improving access to primary care through technology solutions. (County Executive).

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

I am going to make a motion to approve and place on the consent calendar IR 1631, 1632, 1633, and 1634.

I.R. 1632(P) Accepting and appropriating 100% Federal Grant Funds from the New York State Department of Health to the Department of Health Services, Division of Patient Care Services for the Tuberculosis Targeted Testing and Prevention and Control Program. (County Executive)

I.R. 1633(P) Accepting and appropriating additional 100% Federal Grant Funds from Health Research Inc. to the Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health for a West Nile Virus Surveillance and Education Program. (County Executive)

I.R. 1634(P) Accepting and appropriating additional 100% Federal Grant Funds from the New York State Office of Mental Health to the Department of Health Services, Division of Community Mental Hygiene Services to expand Case Management Services in Suffolk County. (County Executive)

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Second by Legislator Haley. All in favor? Opposed? Approved and placed on the consent calendar. **(Vote: 4/0/0/0)**

I.R. 1655(P) Requesting legislative approval of a contract award for dental laboratory services to be provided to the Suffolk County Department of Health. (County Executive)

Can Commissioner Bradley explain?

DR. BRADLEY:

We put out an RFP and only got one responding bidder. So local law requires that we come before the Legislature for approval. This has happened before. The last time we also had to do this.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

And what actually would this – the dental laboratory services provide for us?

DR. BRADLEY:

When the dental clinics need some type of services such as a mold for a tooth, something that they cannot do on site, they need the services of a dental lab, such as a crown, although that is not a good example. We don't do very many crowns. That type of thing. We sometimes need the services of a lab.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Where would the dental laboratory – they would do the services on site in the County or on their own?

DR. BRADLEY:

We'd do a mold and we'd send it to them, and then they would bring it back to us.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Okay. Motion to approve.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

Second.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Just on the motion. Does the backup have the name of the company and also there should be a disclosure, a financial disclosure statement I would imagine.

MR. MAIMONI:

That is all part of the contract, the disclosure statement.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Do we have it in the backup? I don't mean to be a stickler – well, I do mean to be a stickler because on other contracts we do require financial disclosure statements and principals of the awardee as part of the backup.

DR. BRADLEY:

The name is {Acudent}. I don't see a disclosure statement.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

All right. Would it be injurious to the public's health, dental health, if we table this or could we move it out and you would have that available by Tuesday so we can move this along?

DR. BRADLEY:

Yes. Who do you want me to send it to? If I get it, send it to you?

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

To the Chair.

DR. BRADLEY:

Okay.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

The financial disclosure statement and the principals. We know the name of the company as well. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Okay. That was a motion to approve and we had a second. All in favor? Opposed?
Approved. **(Vote: 4/0/0/0)**

I.R. 1658(P) Appropriating funds in connection with the purchase of equipment for health centers (CO 4055). (County Executive)

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

Motion to approve.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Motion by Legislator Postal, second by Legislator Foley. All in favor? Opposed? Approved.
(Vote: 4/0/0/0)

I.R. 1665(P) Directing the County Department of Public Works to implement enhanced pesticide spraying notification via reverse E-911 Program. (Binder)

Explanation. Mr. Ninivaggi. I knew you were here for something.

MR. NINIVAGGI:

Good morning.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Good morning.

MR. NINIVAGGI:

We submitted comments, DPW comments on June 26th. And in general there is some housekeeping sorts of issues such as the way it is currently worded it doesn't distinguish between adulticide and larvaecide, and I am assuming that this was intended to be particular to adulticide. There is a wide variety of reasons why we couldn't apply it to larvaecide, but I think we have been over those issues with other public notification laws.

I will leave it to Health Services to talk about – it appears to lump together West Nile Virus and nuisance problems, which we generally try to avoid. I would point out that since this isn't going to take effect until September anyway, which is around the time we submit the plan at work, I believe it is due in early October, anything you pass now is basically going to be moot because it is going – this whole issue is going to be addressed again with the 2002 plan at work.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

From a policy point of view how do you view this resolution?

MR. NINIVAGGI:

If FRES, Fire Rescue Emergency Services, does most of the mechanical work of this, it is not a tremendous burden for our department in the sense that we have looked into this issue and it would involve us transmitting a digital map of a spray area to them and then they go out and make the phone calls. I don't know how they feel about this particular job because if we're adulticiding on a daily basis, they might find themselves having to use their system to kick out several thousand phone calls every day. On a bad year, they could be making 100,000 calls out of their system. We're asking them for a lot of support to do that. It is not a lot of work for us, but it could be a fair amount of work for them.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

As a follow-up, have you spoken to FRES about this?

MR. NINIVAGGI:

Not about this particular bill.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Have you spoken to the sponsor?

MR. NINIVAGGI:

No.

DR. BRADLEY:

We met with Matt Jones who is responsible for E-911. We talked about how it would work and how we could notify people. The next step was to meeting with FRES, who is the actual operator of the system. We just haven't done that yet.

The other allowance we would have to make is with the no spray list, if we put out a notice that an area will be sprayed, we have to somehow let people know that they may not be sprayed just because they are adjacent to someone who is on the no spray list. So somehow that information has to get out to people, because I don't want them to get a call and say you are going to be sprayed and then have them not be sprayed.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I am going to make a motion to table this, but I would ask that both you and Mr. Ninivaggi contact the sponsor and in addition FRES and see if you can coordinate everything.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

And maybe have them come to the next committee meeting.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Right. Motion to table.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Second the motion.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Tabled. He is opposed. Okay. **(Vote: 3/1/0/0 Opposed: Legislator Haley)**

SENSE RESOLUTIONS

Sense 53-2001 - Memorializing Resolution requesting State of New York to enact Empire State Professional Nursing Scholarship Program. (Fields)

Motion to approve.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Approved. **(Vote: 4/0/0/0)**

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Co-sponsor.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Cosponsor, Legislator Foley.

Sense 55-2001 - Memorializing Resolution requesting State of New York to require treatment of eating disorders by health insurance companies. (Postal)

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

I would make a motion to approve.

LEGISLATOR HALEY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Approved. **(Vote: 4/0/0/0)**

Sense 56-2001 Memorializing Resolution requesting State of New York to require labeling of chemicals known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity. (Fields)

Motion to approve.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Approved. **(Vote: 4/0/0/0)**

Sense 65-2001 (Not Prime) Memorializing Resolution requesting Suffolk County Board of Health to reject requests by power plant operators for waivers for hazardous materials storage facilities. (Binder)

Do you have any comment on this, Commissioner Bradley?

LEGISLATOR HALEY:

Defer to prime.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Second the motion for purposes of discussion.

DR. BRADLEY:

Just for the record, the power plants are not even applying to us for approval. They are keeping it at the State level. We have to have discussions with them about our different County codes and why they are that way, but they are not even applying to us.

The other is I personally think it is inappropriate for outside bodies to tell us what to do in terms of how we run the Board of Health – it is actually not the Board of Health, it is the Board of Review.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

It is a Sense.

DR. BRADLEY:

I understand.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Just on that very point, through the Chair. You mentioned that they are not applying to the Board of Health, they in fact apply to the State. But are they applying for a waiver, though?

DR. BRADLEY:

No. They haven't even applied for a waiver.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

They never even applied for waivers?

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

And they don't have to?

DR. BRADLEY:

There are words in the Article 10 or whatever it is, I don't remember the name, about local code restrictions and if they are onerous, that the process can go on if the body, which is

made up of different representatives, says that it is okay. We have made our comments about -- yeah, that is State level -- Public Service Commission --

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Let me just, if I may, then follow-up. We had an earlier Sense Resolution last general meeting that was site specific in the Kings Park area. Has that particular entity submitted a request for a waiver to the Board of Health?

DR. BRADLEY:

None of them have.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Even though a Legislator has submitted a resolution urging that you don't, that you reject these requests, you haven't received any. Has the Board of Health -- if you could do this as a favor to this committee at least, if the Board of Health could contact however you so desire, whether by phone or by writing to some of these proposed power plant operators on whether or not they intend to submit waivers. If they don't intend to submit waivers and if it is the point of view of the Board of Health that in essence the County is trumped by the State, then we have to ask ourselves a question of whether or not a Sense Resolution such as this is moot or is pertinent.

If it is the point of view of the Board of Health that they should, that you believe that they should come before you, well then this is a relevant Sense Resolution. But if it is not, if it is the position of the Board of Health that it is not or that in fact you have law, public law that states that in essence the County is trumped by State law, well then basically it is a meaningless resolution. So we first need to know whether in fact there is a requirement to do this, to seek the waiver. If not, then -- if so, then yes, then we should do something on these kinds of resolutions. If not, then it is really an exercise in futility.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Can I ask that you reach out rather than the whole Board of Health having a meeting about this, but that you reach out as the Commissioner to see if you can --

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

I am willing to support it as I have in the past with the site specific, but if no applications are being made to the County, then why are we even going through this exercise. Now if there is a Sense Resolution that requests the Board of Health to make the request that they -- these entities submit something to the Board -- well, that's a different kind of Sense Resolution.

LEGISLATOR HALEY:

I think there is a doubled edged sword there. May I? First of all, there is a very specific reason why they are not making application to the County, so sending them a letter is going to be moot because they are not going to respond to it.

The second part of it is, the second thing I would imagine -- I don't know, I don't know what happens when they make a presentation to the State, they'd say "Look, they are not only onerous, but they won't leave us alone. They are now attempting to push us to make application and we don't have to." So I am not so sure that is fruitful. I mean, there may be another approach to all of this, but I am not sure that it is. I think a Sense Resolution that says to the Public Service Commission, you know, listen, we believe in local control, at least I do, Legislator Foley --

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

That's a different Sense Resolution than the one before us.

LEGISLATOR HALEY:

And perhaps we could ask them to not pass judgement on whether or not our Board of Health is in fact onerous.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

That is a different Sense Resolution. And I would be one to support, but that is a different Sense Resolution than the one before us.

LEGISLATOR HALEY:

I am simply responding to the request that they communicate or send letters to these supposed applicants. I think it is a waste.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Would a phone call just – from you to them be fruitful in any way do you think?

DR. BRADLEY:

I can do that. Vito has done that and hasn't gotten a clear answer from them.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Perhaps you as the Commissioner, you know, they have to at least take your phone call I think. Maybe they won't answer you, but – and then maybe could you communicate that to us before Tuesday?

DR. BRADLEY:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

And then would this committee be – what if we approve this without recommendation? What if we make a motion to approve without recommendation and then –

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

We are not prime, though. We could defer to prime on it. As I said –

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

But we brought up the point. So could we make a motion to approve without recommendation based on the fact that Dr. Bradley will make a phone call and communicate that to us on Tuesday? Because if they pass this in the prime committee we would like to get this kind of an answer before Tuesday.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

I am not trying to split hairs, my only point is, is that if in fact State law does not require power plant operators to seek waivers from local entities, then what is the purpose of the resolution?

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

It wouldn't hurt if we passed it, would it?

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

I would be more than happy if there is a Sense Resolution that says to the State PSC that, as Legislator Haley mentioned, that there should be requirements of these operators to adhere to local public health ordinances and the like. That I would be more than happy to support. Again, I am not trying to split hairs here, but –

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Legislator Postal.

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

I am concerned and I would like to hear Dr. Bradley's opinion that this could – passing something like this could actually discourage applications. You know, that if we've passed this resolution where we have requested the Board of Health to reject requests by power plant operators, then why should they apply to us? Why should they even consider applying to the County? Why wouldn't they just automatically go to the State? So this could be self-defeating if we pass this.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Not only that point, just to add to that is the fact that if in fact as was mentioned that they don't need to seek waivers locally, then I think what we are giving – we are misleading -- in effect, we are misleading the local public that by passing this resolution that it is somehow going to be an obstacle for those who want obstacles to put in the path of applicants. I think we are giving a false sense of not security, but I think in essence –

LEGISLATOR POSTAL:

False sense of accomplishment.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Yes, false sense of accomplishment, well put. And so for that reason, again, I am not trying to be difficult with the sponsor because I would be more than happy to support a bill requesting the State PSC to require applicants to adhere to local public health laws. If we pass this, then it is going to give the impression to the public that the Board of Health has some role to play to review the waivers for power plant operators. As we have heard so far in testimony today, the Board of Health doesn't have that authority. Is that not correct, Commissioner?

DR. BRADLEY:

Not that we know of. This is the first time we've gone through this. We originally thought that we would at least get a request for a waiver or something but we are not getting anything. When we have asked Kings Park we don't get a straight answer –

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Has the Board of Health requested of the County Attorney's Office a, not a rule, for an opinion on whether or not these operators need to – is that a written opinion that you received from the County Attorney?

DR. BRADLEY:

I don't believe we got a response yet. We did ask them in writing.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

And when do you expect a – how long ago, with everything else on your mind, how long ago was a –

DR. BRADLEY:

I think it was a few weeks – I will follow-up on that.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Why don't you, because again, I would like to support it, but I don't want to mislead the public by passing this when in fact as I said, State law trumps local law and we can't do anything in this area. So subject to --

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Motion to defer to prime.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Defer to prime, but I would also ask, Madam Chair, that once the County Attorney's opinion is given to the Board of Health, that that would be transmitted to this committee as well.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Which committee is this in? It is in Energy.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

And also to the Energy Committee as well.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

So we'll have some kind of an answer before Tuesday in case this does get out on the floor

on Tuesday.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

The Board of Health may not have the County Attorney's opinion ready by next Tuesday.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Motion to defer to prime. Second by Legislator –

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Foley.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Foley. All in favor? Opposed? Deferred to prime. **(Vote: 4/0/0/0)**. Motion to adjourn.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Before motion to adjourn, Madam Chair, I would just ask the Commissioner if you could give us an update on West Nile. I know we read in the papers and on the news about the adjacent County park where there was some West Nile. Where do we stand Countywide and give us an overview on that, please.

DR. BRADLEY:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

And maybe Statewide also, how are things in the State with West Nile.

DR. BRADLEY:

Okay. So far Suffolk County has 12 positive birds for West Nile. I believe as of last count there are about 17 statewide, so we have a high percentage of the positive birds. We have about 70% of the positive birds, yet we have only submitted about 2% of the birds statewide. So we are doing a pretty good job in terms of identifying the appropriate birds that need to be sent up, making sure that it is the appropriate species and that it hasn't been dead for a long period of time. Once it is beyond a certain period of time, they can't test.

In terms of mosquito pools, there have been two positive pools. One is in the City and one is in Suffolk County. Our pool was in Blydenburgh. It was predominantly in mosquitoes that are more aggressive animal biters than human biters. When you monitor the mosquito counts in that area since that positive, because there is a delay from when the specimen is collected and when the test gets to us, the numbers first were cut in half and then were cut in a quarter again. So the numbers of mosquitoes over the last few weeks have decreased significantly because of the weather, because of the dryness and because of the cooler temperatures. My position was that we did not need to do adulticiding based on that one positive pool. We have continued to do surveillance in the park and in the surrounding area.

The numbers of mosquitoes in the surrounding areas and where the birds have been found have been very, very low so that is fortunate in terms of risk of transmission to humans.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

In comparison to last year we are way, way down or?

DR. BRADLEY:

Last year was a low year, too, but we are down in comparison to last year. Whereas I think we all thought when we started the season it was going to be a bad year, it has turned out not to be that way. Now, we still have potentially six weeks of mosquito weather. The weather is getting hotter. I anticipate that we are going to have more positives but it just hasn't happened yet. So we continue to do surveillance.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Of the 12 birds, are they basically –

DR. BRADLEY:

Lake Grove, Nesconset, Smithtown, Centereach, East Northport.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Nobody on the south shore?

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

That was my follow-up. So it really is freshwater – we are looking at freshwater mosquitoes as opposed to title marsh mosquitoes?

DR. BRADLEY:

Yes, not the traditional south shore.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

West Nile Virus is contracted by a freshwater mosquito anyway, not by a saltwater –

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Not by a title marsh.

DR. BRADLEY:

If we did, then we would have serious problems because those would be aggressive human biters.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Thank you very much.

DR. BRADLEY:

You're welcome.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Motion to adjourn. Seconded by Legislator Foley. All in favor? Opposed? Adjourned.

(The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.)

{ } Denotes Spelled Phonetically